

Regulation 301

RATES AND CHARGES

(a) **Basic Charge**

A Basic Charge shall be applied to each service connection, whether the service is actually or constructively installed. The Basic Charge shall be applied bimonthly for the periods of January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December, and shall be billed in advance to each service connection customer concurrently with the billing for the immediately preceding period's metered usage charges. In the event of a change in the customer for a service connection during a stated bimonthly period, the Basic Charge for that period shall be prorated between the old and new customers on the basis of the number of days each customer was the customer of record.

(b) **Amount of Basic Charge**

Effective January 1, 2022, the amount of the bimonthly Basic Charge shall be One Hundred Forty Six and No/100s Dollars (\$146.50), effective July 1, 2020 except as the amount of the Basic Charge is modified for qualifying customers pursuant to the applicable provisions of Regulation 302, "Lifeline Program."

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(c) **Metered Usage Charge**

Each metered customer connection shall be charged bimonthly for the amount of water drawn through the customer meter, as determined by reading the customer's meter. Such metered usage charge shall be based on the metered usage rates provided for in paragraph (d) of this Regulation. The bimonthly period for purposes of determining the metered usage charge shall be such that no bimonthly period consists of fewer than 45 days nor more than 75 days, and shall be as close to 60 days as is operationally practical. The ending date of each bimonthly period shall be such that statements are rendered to customers as close as is practical to the last day of the month that precedes a bimonthly period for purposes of the Basic Charge provided for in paragraph (a) of this Regulation. Usage by a customer for less than a full bimonthly period shall be billed as if it represented the total usage for the bimonthly period.

(d) **Metered Usage Charge Rates**

The metered usage charge for all customers, unless provided for otherwise in this Regulation, for water usage measured in units of 100 cubic feet (ccf) or fraction thereof shall be calculated in accordance with the schedule shown below, this schedule of usage charge rates to become effective for any metered usage charge based on a customer water meter reading conducted on or after January 1, 2020:

Usage (ccf)	Residential service rate (per ccf)	Non-residential service rate (per ccf)
1 – 4	\$0.00	0.00
5 – 12	\$3.00	\$3.00
13 – 24	\$5.00	\$5.00
25 – 36	\$6.00	\$6.00
37 – 48	\$10.00	\$10.00
49 – 60	\$12.00	\$12.00
61 & up	\$28.00	\$12.00

A service's categorization as "Residential service" or "Non-residential service" shall be based on the prevailing use of the property served by a water service connection, as determined by the General Manager, whose determination may be appealed in writing to the Board of Directors; the determination by the Board of Directors shall be final and binding. In the case of a connection serving undeveloped property, the cate-

gorization as “Residential service” or “Non-residential service” shall be based on the intended usage of the property, based on the principal use of the property as determined by Marin County zoning.

(e) **Rates for Public Water Service from Publicly Owned Fire Hydrants**

No charge shall be made for water drawn from a publicly owned fire hydrant, standpipe, or similar device when such draw is for public, firefighting, emergency, or water system purposes and is by, under the direction of, or pursuant to authorization by firefighting or other emergency officials, or by, under the direction of, or pursuant to authorization by officials or employees of the Inverness P.U.D. Water System.

(f) **Rates for Private Water Service from Publicly Owned Fire Hydrants**

The rate for water drawn for private use from a publicly owned fire hydrant, standpipe, or similar device pursuant to a permit issued by the System shall be equal to the highest metered usage rate shown in Paragraph (d) of this Regulation. In the event such usage is not metered, usage shall be estimated by the System. The System may, at its sole discretion, require that a deposit be posted with the System in advance of any draw of water for private use from a publicly owned fire hydrant, standpipe, or similar device in an amount equal to the estimated total cost of the water anticipated to be drawn.

If a temporary line connection is made to a publicly owned fire hydrant, standpipe, or similar device pursuant to a permit issued by the System in order to convey water from the hydrant, standpipe, or similar device to the location of the private use, a Connection/Disconnection Charge of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be payable in advance of installation of said connection. In addition to the charge for water drawn through such a temporary line connection, a connection device rental charge and water availability charge of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per calendar day shall be assessed. The usage and rental/availability charges may be billed to the customer on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, or bimonthly basis, at the discretion of the system, and any such invoice shall be payable within 15 days of the invoice being rendered to the customer. The System shall provide only the connection at the hydrant, standpipe, or similar device; provision and installation of the temporary conveyance line shall be the obligation of the user, and such conveyance line must be approved by the System as adequate and in sufficiently good repair to accommodate the volume and pressure of the water to be conveyed.

(g) **Returned Check Charge**

A charge shall be applied to the customer’s account in each instance when the customer’s check for payment of any charges is returned by the customer’s bank as unpaid for any reason. The charge shall be Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) as a handling and processing charge plus whatever, if any, is charged by the System’s bank to the System for the bank’s processing and handling of the returned check.

(h) **Late Payment Charge**

A Late Payment Charge shall be applied to the account of any customer on whose account any invoiced charge has not been paid after sixty (60) days from the date of the invoice showing the charge. The Late Payment Charge shall be applied at such time that the System sends to the customer a Ten-Day Service Shutoff Notice. The amount of the Late Payment charge when the Ten-Day Service Notice is issued shall be Thirty-Five Dollars (\$35.00). In the event the customer who received the Ten-Day Service Notice does not respond, a Forty-Eight-Hour Service Notice shall be issued and posted on the property and an additional Sixty-Five Dollars (\$65.00) shall be charged.

(i) **Special Meter Reading Charge**

A charge of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) shall be applied to the account of a customer at such time that the meter serving the customer’s service is read by System personnel at a time not regularly scheduled for a reading of the meter and pursuant to a request from the customer that the meter be read, except that this charge shall not be applied if the request that the meter be read is in conjunction with a change in the customer for the service connection, or if the request that the meter be read is in conjunction with the filing of a formal request for a testing of the accuracy of the meter as provided for in Regulation 52, or if the request that the

meter be read is in conjunction with the filing by the customer of a request for investigation of a disputed bill.

(j) Account Setup Charge

A charge of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be applied to the account of a new customer as a processing and setup charge to cover costs of changing the account from the previous customer to the new customer. Any customer-initiated change in customer information that necessitates assignment of a new account number shall be construed as constituting a change in the customer for purposes of application of this charge. This charge shall also be applied as a processing fee in order to place into effect an Authorization to Forward Statements. However, this charge shall not be applied to set up the account of the first customer for a newly installed service connection.

(k) Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Rates

In the case of a customer connection for which a “cross-connection condition” exists, as defined pursuant to Regulation 108, “Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention,” of the Regulations of the Inverness Public Utility District Water System, the bimonthly charge provided for in Paragraph (o) of said Regulation 108 shall be as stipulated by the schedule shown below, effective July 1, 2020:

Inspection Frequency	Charge (bimonthly)
Annual	\$12.00
Semiannual	\$24.00
Quarterly	\$48.00
Monthly	\$144.00

(l) Automatic Annual Adjustment of Rates and Charges to Reflect the Change in the Consumer Price Index

The customer rates and charges specified below shall be adjusted in the years 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 effective with each year’s bimonthly billing for the period of July/August to reflect the ratio of change during the preceding calendar year in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area (1982-1984=100) as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics, except that no annual change in the rates and charges shall exceed an increase of five percent (5%). This annual adjustment shall apply to the Basic Charge rates, the Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention rates, the rates for Private Water Service from Publicly Owned Fire Hydrants, and the Metered Usage Charge rates (effective for any metered usage charge based on a customer water meter reading conducted on or after July 1 of the subject year).

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(m) Drought Surcharge

A “Drought Surcharge” of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) per bimonthly billing period shall be applied to each service connection, whether the service is actually or constructively installed. The Drought Surcharge shall be levied for each bimonthly billing period beginning with the billing period of January/February 2022 through and including the billing period of May/June 2023, after which billing period the Drought Surcharge shall expire and shall no longer be levied. The Drought Surcharge shall be billed in advance to each service connection customer concurrently with the billing for the immediately preceding period’s metered usage charges. In the event of a change in the customer for a service connection during a stated bimonthly period, the Drought Surcharge for that period shall be prorated between the old and new customers on the basis of the number of days each customer was the customer of record. An applicant who qualifies under section (b) of Water System Regulation 302 to participate in the Lifeline Program shall be considered eligible for whichever of the following reductions in the amount of the Drought Surcharge is applicable:

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- For a qualified applicant whose entire household income is less than HUD’s Very Low Income Limit, the Drought Surcharge shall be Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per bimonthly billing period.

- For a qualified applicant whose entire household income is less than HUD's Extremely Low Income Limit, the Drought Surcharge shall be Seven and 50/100s Dollars (\$7.50) per bi-monthly billing period.

This Paragraph (m) shall become null and void on and after July 1, 2023.

(n) Fixed Charges

The aggregate of a customer's Basic Charge, Drought Surcharge, and Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Charge, as applicable, constitutes the customer's "fixed charges." The components constituting the fixed charges need not be itemized separately on the customer water bills, but may be aggregated as the Fixed Charges.

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As Regulation 54: *Adopted, May 21, 1986 (Ordinance 5-86)*
Amended, March 21, 1988 (Ordinance 12-88)
Amended, July 11, 1988 (Ordinance 17-88)
Amended in its entirety, November 21, 1988 (Ordinance 18-88)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a amended, May 22, 1989 (Ordinance 21-89)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a amended, June 18, 1990 (Ordinance 25-90)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a, metered usage charges in Paragraph c, and rate for fire hydrants system in Paragraph e amended, May 20, 1991 (Ordinance 27-91)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a and rate for fire hydrants system in Paragraph e amended (effective 7/1/92), May 18, 1992 (Ordinance 31-92)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a amended (effective 9/1/92), May 18, 1992 (Ordinance 31-92)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a amended and Paragraph e rewritten, May 17, 1993 (Ordinance 34-93)
Fixed charges in Paragraph a amended, July 19, 1993 (Ordinance 36-93)
 Replaced in its entirety by Regulation 301, May 27, 1997 (Ordinance 44-1997)

As Regulation 301: *Adopted, May 27, 1997, amending and replacing Regulation 54 (Ordinance 44-1997) [Conforms water rates to Proposition 218]*
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b) and Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d) amended, Sept. 29, 1997 (amended Paragraph (b) to become effective January 1, 1998; amended Paragraph (d) to become effective November 1, 1997) (Ordinance 46-1997) [Reverts to pre-Prop. 218 tiered water rates]
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b) amended, June 15, 1998, to become effective Sept. 1, 1998 (Ordinance 49-1998)
Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d) amended (effective 7/1/2001), distinction between residential and non-residential usage rates introduced, and Account Setup Charge in Paragraph (j) increased from \$5.00 to \$10.00, July 2, 2001 (Ordinance 57-2001)
Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d) amended effective 7/1/2005.
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b), Metered Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d), Returned Check Charge in Paragraph (g), Special Meter Reading Charge in Paragraph (i), and Account Setup Charge in Paragraph (j) amended effective July 1, 2008.
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b), Metered Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d), Late Payment Charge in Paragraph (h) amended (effective July 1, 2009) (Ordinance 76-2009)
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b) and Metered Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d) amended effective January 1, 2018 (Ordinance 87-2017).
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b), Metered Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d), and paragraph in Paragraph (d) on "A service's categorization..." amended effective July 1, 2019 (Ordinance 90-2019).
Basic Charge in Paragraph (b) amended, Metered Usage Charge Rates in Paragraph (d) amended, and Paragraph (k) on "Rates and Charges for Temporary Service" added, effective July 1, 2020 (Ordinance 93-2020).
Paragraph (b), "Amount of Basic Charge," amended and Paragraphs (l), "Automatic Annual Adjustment of Rates and Charges to Reflect the Change in the Consumer Price Index," (m),

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"Drought Surcharge," and (n) "Fixed Charges" added, effective January 1, 2022 (Ordinance 104-2021).

NOTE: Whenever a change in water rates occurs, be sure to update the file "IPUD Water Rates History.docx" at S:\2Water\Water Rates-Rate Change\IPUD Water Rates History.docx.

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